Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08

EUR-12 IO-13 /090 W

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R 281436Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7402

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 7234

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR EG LE

SUBJ: JUMBLATT'S ARRIVAL IN CAIRO

- 1. PRESS SEPTEMBER 28 SEIZES ON JUMBLATT'S PRESENCE TO GLORIFY EGYPTIAN ROLE ON LEBANON AND EXCORIATE SYRIANS. JUMBLATT MET YESTERDAY WITH FONMIN FAHMY, HAS APPOINTMENT WITH SADAT SEPTEMBER 28, AND WAS HONORED GUEST AT SADAT'S SPEECH TO PARLIAMENTARY BODY (SEPTEL).
- 2. JUMBLATT EXPLAINED HIS POSITION TO PRESS AS: READY FOR CEASEFIRE; INSISTENT ON WITHDRAWAL OF SYRIANS, AND REINFORCEMENT OF ARAB LEAGUE FORCES; ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE; AND FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY. JUMBLATT WENT ON TO SAY LEBANESE STRUGGLE STEMS FROM "US-ISRAEL CONSPIRACY" WHICH HAS ACHIEVED 80' PERCENT OF ITS OBJECTIVES. ISRAEL AND US HAVE USED GREATER SYRIAN AMBITIONS OF ASAD AND SYRIAN BAATHISTS TO IMPLEMENT CONSPIRACY. SYRIA'S OBJECTIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTINUES TO BE PARTITION.

- 3. JUMBLATT CLAIMED THAT, WHILE EN ROUTE TO CYPRUS BY SHIP, HE WAS FIRED UPON BY ISRAELI GUNOOAT IN ACT OF INTIMIDATION.
- 4. MEANWHILE, AHRAM REPORTED THAT DATE OF LIMITED SUMMIT "PROPOSED BY EGYPT" WILL BE FIXED UPON COMPLETION OF CONDITIONS IN CAIRO BY LEBANESE DIGNITARIES. FORMER LEBANESE PRESIDENT HILU AND PRIMIN AL YAFY ARE EXPECTED IN NEXT FEW DAYS. PAPER ADHERES TO LINE THAT SIX PARTIES, INCLUDING PLO AND LEBANON WILL PARTICIPATE.
- 5. GUMHURRIYA TOP STORY WAS HANGING OF "FEDAYEEN" BY SRYIANS IN AFTERMATH OF ATTACK ON SEMIRAMIS HOTEL. ALTHOUGH ALL COMMENTARY CONDEMNED TERRORISTS METHODS, EDITORIALS IN AHRAM AND GUMHURRIYA BOTH WENT OUT OF THEIR WASY TO STRESS THAT ATTACK ON HOTEL WAS NATURAL REACTION BY PALESTINIANS AGAINST SYRIAN PERSECUTION.
- 6. WITH JUMBLATT HIMSELF PROVIDING MUCH OF THE VOCABULARY PRESS WENT TO TOWN ON LEBANON, CONTRASTING EGYPT'S CRUCIAL ROLE ("JUMBLATT: EGYPT'S INITIATIVE SAVES LEBANON") WITH SYRIAN OBDURACY ("JUMBLATT: WITHDRAWAL BY SYRIA IS PRECONDITION TO CEASEFIRE"). WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT EGYPTIANS THEMSELVES HAVE NOT RAISED SUBJECT OF SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL. WHATEVER JUMBLATT VISIT ACCOMPLISHES BEYOND NOURISHMENT OF EGYPTIAN EGO, PRESS STEADFASTLY HEWS TO LINE THAT EGYPT IS NECESSARY CATALYST FOR ANY LEBANESE SETTLEMENT. MATTHEWS

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